



April 2023 Newsletter

Welcome to the MACTE Newsletter for the 2022-2023 academic year! This newsletter is sent once a month during the academic year to update the MACTE community about collaborative work, MACTE events, and information and opportunities relevant to teacher preparation in Minnesota.

MACTE Updates

MACTE Leadership Transition

At MACTE's spring conference, Cari Maguire (University of MN, Twin Cities) passed the leadership torch to Darrell Stolle (Concordia College, Moorhead). Cari will serve as past-president for one year. Additionally, new MEC members were elected from each MACTE caucus. Keri DeSutter, was elected to represent the Minnesota State Caucus. Allison Spenader, was elected to represent the Private Caucus. Michelle Page was elected from the University of Minnesota Caucus.

Much gratitude to Kyena Cornelius (MN State), Carrie Pfeifer (Private) and Michael Young (UMN) who have completed their full two year terms as MEC members. Thank you to all for your willingness to commit your time and energy to MACTE! As Cari shared at the spring meeting, "a strong MEC is a strong MACTE."

Spring Meeting Recap

Thanks to everyone who attended MACTE's spring business meeting and collaboration. Over 125 people joined us virtually on Friday, April 21. The meeting wrapped up our yearly focus on mental health through networking conversations centered on how we can apply this year's learning with our teacher candidates. Thanks to all for the collaborative spirit and shared resources around this topic.

Next Year's MACTE conference will focus on social and emotional learning as we continue on our three year [Due North Response Strategic Plan](#).

Save the Date: Fall MACTE Conference

Our fall business meeting and collaboration will be held in person on Thursday October 26th, 2023 (business meeting) and Friday, October 27, 2023 (collaboration) at the Crowne Plaza In Plymouth. In the 2023-2024 academic year, MACTE will again hold one in-person conference in the fall and two virtual conferences in the winter and spring. Winter and spring conference dates will be announced shortly.

Hotel room reservations for the fall conference can be made at the special rate of \$121 through [this link](#). We hope to have robust attendance at our fall meeting!

PELSB Reading Audit Resources

MEC is working with PELSB to develop resources that will clarify the process being used in the reading audit. These resources will be ready this summer at the latest. If your unit has had confusing or concerning communication with PELSB about the reading audit, MACTE is available to support you. Please contact Darrell Stolle or Cari Maguire

MACTE Opinion Article in the Star Tribune

Cari Maguire, Darrell Stolle, and Laura Mogelson co-authored a counterpoint opinion article about the Tier 2 - Tier 3 "experience pathway" to licensure. The article ran in the Minneapolis Star Tribune on Wednesday, April 26th and can be viewed on [the Star Tribune website](#).

Legislative Updates

As a reminder, we have [legislative priorities](#) that drive our advocacy at the 2023 legislative session:

- Maintain high quality standards for teacher preparation
- Increase the diversity of Minnesota's teaching force
- Support safe and nurturing learning environments

Here are links to the current bills. For highlights from the bills, please take a look at the recent legislative update from our April MACTE conference ([slides](#)). You'll see in here a disappointing update that the paid student teaching for all was not included in the House and Senate versions of the K-12 bills.

- Senate K-12 Policy: [SF 1311](#) and Senate K-12 Funding: [SF 2684](#)
- House K-12 Policy and Funding: [HF 2497](#)
- Higher Education Policy and Funding: [HF 2073](#)
- Early Childhood provision for teacher shortage in [HF 2292](#)

The House K-12 Education Policy and Finance bill was heard on the House floor and passed with some amendments. The Senate K-12 Education Policy bill and K-12 Education Funding bill were heard on the Senate floor and passed with amendments.

Of great concern to us in the Senate Education Policy bill was an amendment that passed (36 in favor and 29 against) that deleted the modification to Tier 3 licensure we have supported. This is a major disappointment. We have consistently advocated for high quality standards-based teacher preparation and the removal of this shortcut since its passing in 2017. If you are interested in watching the debate on the provision on the Senate floor, start at [2:10:05](#) where Senator Abeler introduces his amendment.

How can you help with this issue regarding the Tier 2 to Tier 3 loophole? House conference committee conferees are Representatives Youakim, Hill, Pryor, Clardy, and Kresha. We are waiting to see who the Senate conferees will be. Please consider contacting these legislators. We've put together some salient points in

the recent opinion [article](#) in the Star Tribune that you are welcome to use. Our priority [document](#) has helpful language as well.

Some wins we are seeing in the K-12 bills include:

- Increases to CUGMEC grant funds and modification to the grant language
- Increases to GYO grant funds and added eligibility, including Special Education
- Elimination of the basic skills exams for a Tier 4 license
- Elimination of the pedagogy and content exams for a Tier 3 license for completers
- Two additional teacher members to PELSB, including an additional teacher educator

The Higher Education bills in the House and Senate have many provisions we've supported this session, including grants for teacher candidates in shortage areas, grants to underrepresented teacher candidates, and loan forgiveness program for teachers in shortage areas. The House and Senate conference committee is poised to start their work to finalize the Higher Education bill. Senate conferees are Senators Fateh, Oumou Verbeten, and Putnam. House conferees are Representatives Pelowski, Wolgamott, and O'Neill.

In the Higher Education bills, we are disappointed that the provisions put forward in the Increase Teachers of Color Act were not fully funded and that the Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship program will not continue to be funded. If you haven't already, please write to chair Senator Fateh and chair Representative Pelowski regarding fully supporting the Increase Teachers of Color Act 2023. Please urge them to support increased investments for Underrepresented Student Teacher Grants and the Aspiring Teachers of Color Scholarship Program in Conference Committee negotiations.

AACTE Updates

The Role of Educator Preparation Programs in Preparing Teachers in the Science of Reading

The “science of reading” has garnered enormous attention among educators and the general public over the past few years. In this report, authors define the science of reading, discuss effective reading instruction and teacher preparation, share voices from the field and provide recommendations for educator preparation programs as well as resources. [Read More](#).

Washington Week is June 4-7

AACTE exists to advocate for high-quality and equitable education for all — and works to amplify the voices of its member advocates. Teacher educators, scholars, and other members from colleges and institutions nationwide are invited to attend [AACTE’s 2023 Washington Week on June 4 – 7](#). Under this year’s theme of “Investing in Education,” AACTE’s national advocacy event will inspire attendees to explore some of the most pressing policy issues in educator preparation, such as censorship, educator shortage, and educator diversity.

[Register today](#), and remember to [book your hotel by May 24](#) to receive your special rate.

Resources

Join the Elevate Teaching Celebration & Launch Event

The Elevate Teaching movement is thrilled to announce the upcoming Celebration and Launch Event, set to take place on Thursday, May 11th from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m., both online and in person at the Minnesota Humanities Center. The event is being held in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week and the launch of the new messaging campaign for the Elevate Teaching movement. The Elevate Teaching Celebration and Launch Event will feature engaging activities, delicious appetizers and beverages, a creative high school youth performance by VocalEssence’s Singers Of This Age, and a full line up of guest speakers including the 2022 Teacher of the Year, Sarah Lancaster. Registration is now open! <https://www.elevateteaching.us/events>

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